UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE CORPS LOGISTICS BASES
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IN REPLY REFER TO:
4120
Code 584
26-Mar-02

From: Commander, Marine Corps Logistics Base (L01)

Subj: POLICY MEMO #5-02 FOR NUCLEAR, BIOLOGICAL AND CHEMICAL DEFENSE (NBCD) DESTRUCTIVE AND NON-DESTRUCTIVE TESTING

1. The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology has delegated authority for the shelf-life management program to the Director of Defense Logistic Agency (DLA). DLA has directed the management of shelf life be in accordance with Department of Defense (DOD) Directive 5105.22 and Joint Defense Logistics Agency Regulations (DLAR) 4155.37.

2. The purpose of this policy statement is to establish guidance for uniquely managed Type I/II Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Defense (NBCD) assets. These assets require destructive and non-destructive assessments to ensure they have retained sufficient quantities of their original characteristics and are of a quality level that warrants extension of the assigned time period.

3. NBCD assets are life support items (Chemical Suits, Chemical Gloves etc.); these items also contain specific deteriorative components (Charcoal Liner, Rubber etc.). The initial component characteristics decrease while packaged and on the shelf. These items will deteriorate/degradate over an unknown period of time. Packaging/storage and frequency of test are established to ensure and possibly enhance the item's usable shelf life. NBCD assets will undergo periodic cyclic inspections in accordance with current Marine Corps and DOD directives. Chemical and physical property testing will be conducted on all type II NBCD assets prior to the established shelf life being considered for extension. Chemical and physical property testing will be executed in accordance with military specifications and product/commercial item descriptions to conform to guidelines established in the DLAR 4155.37.

4. The Program Manager (PM), Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Defense Equipment Assessment Program (NBCDEAP) has been assigned the DOD Shelf Life Sub-Committee Representative for NBCD equipment shelf life requirements. This assignment includes the monitoring and management of non-destructive cyclic and destructive chemical agent and physical property testing.

5. Under the guidance of the PM, NBCDEAP and the Equipment Assessment Unit (EAU), the Marine Corps Set Aside Project is established to monitor non-destructive cyclic and destructive chemical agent and physical property testing.

6. The EAU's will be responsible for monitoring the cyclic non-destructive serviceability and maintainability requirements of NBCD assets at all levels of supply. The EAU will assist commanders in the evaluation of their combat assets for readiness. Periodic random assessments of all NBCD assets will be conducted.

7. The Marine Corps Set-Aside Project will be responsible for monitoring the shelf-life/whole-life of all NBCD assets through required destructive chemical agent and physical property testing. Set-Aside facilities will be established to maintain/monitor sample lots of all type II assets.

8. The PM, NBCDEAP is responsible for total life cycle management of all NBCD assets in accordance with this policy. Coordination with PM, NBC, MARCORSYSCOM, will be instituted in the execution of this policy.

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